

Lindley M. Moore House
22 Lake View Park
Rochester
Monroe County
New York

HABS No. NY-5432

HABS

NY

28 APR 1968

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Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-5432

LINDLEY M. MOORE HOUSE

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Location: 22 Lake View Park, northeast corner of Lake View Park and Fairview Heights, Rochester, Monroe County, New York

Present Owner: Nazareth Convent and Academy, 88 Jay Street, Rochester

Present Occupant: None

Present Use: None

Statement of Significance: This fine example of a Greek Revival style residence, despite alterations, marks the growth of Rochester's first architecturally significant neighborhood, the Third Ward.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: c. 1831.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: "... said parcel being lots eighteen, nineteen, thirty-four and thirty-five, of township one in the short range townships in the town of Gates, this being part of the Twenty Thousand Acre Tract ..."

1829 Deed, June 12, 1829, Book 15, p. 241.
From: Seth Saxton
To: Lindley M. Moore of West Chester County,
New York
For: \$500.00.
Moore erected the house in lot thirty-four.

1836 Deed, May 2, 1836, Book 35, p. 399.
From: Lindley M. Moore and Abigail L., his wife.
To: Alexander Kelsey.
For: \$16, 968.00.
The property, one hundred and sixty-nine and sixty-eight one hundredths acres, was comprised of lots nineteen, thirty-four and thirty-six.

1844 Deed, January 13, 1844, Book 64, p. 1.
From: Alexander Kilsey.
To: William Kidd.
For: \$18,000.00.

1850 After a survey in 1850 by F. J. H. Cornell, this area was to become known as the Lake View Tract. The Moore House is situated on lot fifteen.

1920 After seven changes in ownership the following description accompanied the sale in 1920. "... part of lot fifteen, situated on the northwest corner of Lake View Park and Fairview Heights, extending one hundred and thirty-eight and one half feet east-west on Lake View Park and two hundred feet north-south on Fairview Heights.

1920 Deed, July 2, 1920, Book 1111, p. 2.
From: William H. Briggs and Harriet, his wife.
To: Nazareth Convent and Academy, a religious corporation.

4. Builder or contractor: Unknown.

5. Original plans: None known.

6. Alterations and additions: The architectural information included in this report describes only the five bay by three bay house. Therefore the three bay, two story rear wing and its brick cottage attachment to the west are not considered. A center cupola now exists only as the base of a former complete roof structure. No functional windows now have shutters, but stays in the walls remain. The bay window to the east was added at a relatively early date. Two window openings on the first story, west side, have been moved about one foot. The four major first floor rooms have been partitioned.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

Lindley Murray Moore, the Quaker builder of the house, was the first president and recording secretary of the Rochester Anti-Slavery Society in 1838. At the same time he was vice-president of the Rochester Temperance Society. He taught for some time in local public schools, eventually becoming a principal. From 1848-50 Moore was the principal of Haverford Friend's School, now known as Haverford College, located outside of Philadelphia. Moore's son, Dr. Edward Mott Moore, was a well-known doctor and prominent citizen of Rochester.

Other owners, including prominent Rochester citizens, doctors, a Congressman and County Treasurer, by their selection of the Moore House as a residence indicated not only the desirability of the house, but also the prestigious location of the house in the Third Ward, now a National Historic District.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Deeds, Office of Monroe County Clerk.

b. Secondary and published sources:

McKelvey, Blake. Rochester The Flour City 1855-1890.
Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1949.

_____. Rochester The Water Power City 1825-1845.
Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1946.

Peck, William F., et al. Landmarks of Monroe County, New York. Boston: The Boston History Company, 1895.

Pond, C. F. "History of the Third Ward." Rochester Historical Society vol. 1, n. d., pp. 71-81.

2. Likely sources not yet investigated: Insurance records to determine dates for additions.

Prepared by Kevin Patrick Harrington
Society for the Preservation
of Landmarks in
Western New York
September, 1966

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This fine representative Greek Revival house, largely preserved, has well-developed interior details.
2. Condition of Fabric: In general the condition is good, except for some deterioration of paint and plaster surfaces.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Thirty-two feet, two inches by forty-four feet, two inches; five bays by three bays; two stories; rectangular layout.
2. Foundations: The foundations which extend three feet nine inches above ground level are terminated by a plain stone water table. The outer surface is stuccoed and lined, emulating stone jointing. The construction is of brick above grade and stone below grade. On the interior, the surface is stuccoed, over which at some undetermined date furring, wood lath, and plaster were applied. The masonry is twenty-two inches thick.
3. Wall construction: Walls are of red brick laid in American bond; every eighth course is composed of headers. Seven courses equal sixteen inches in height. Joints throughout appear to have been pointed with modern cement mortar. The entire wall surface, portions of which are peeling, has been painted several times.
4. Structural system, framing: The exterior brick walls are load-bearing. There are timber floor and roof systems. Brick piers one foot by one foot, four inches (approximately two under each hall partition) support the first floor. They may not be original.
5. Chimneys: There are two brick interior chimneys on each side. Those to the west may have been altered.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance is located on the central axis of the south front. The door, set within a shouldered wooden architrave ornamented with painted metal paterae, has sidelights and a rectangular transom light. The transom bar is in the form of an architrave with one fascia crowned by an enriched bead and enriched cyma reversa (egg, tongue, and dart). On each side of the door is a paneled anta, recalled at the outer edge by a plain half anta. Sidelights and transom have leaded glass set in a geometric pattern. The door, three inches thick, has a single molded panel with a molded raised field on which is placed a knocker in the form of a lion's head. This entrance has a single piece

stone threshold.

- b. Windows and shutters: Window openings are rectangular. Those on the east and south walls have stone lintels. Those on the west wall have flat brick arches. On the second story, one opening on the west and one on the east are blank. One is blank on the east wall of the first story. Sills throughout are stone. The sashes, apparently all replacements, are set into the masonry opening with a plain wood casing. The blank windows are finished with closed shutters. Basement windows are approximately square and have stone sills a short distance above grade. In the frieze are low windows admitting light to the attic through ornamental grilles.

- 7. Roof: The roof of the original building is hipped. Two sawn and hewn oak king posts (five inches by seven inches), apparently resting on or near bearing partitions of the second story, support a thin ridge pole. At each king post is a sawn white pine principal rafter, four inches by ten inches in section; one extends to the end, one to the front and one to the rear. Each is braced near midspan by a four inch by seven inch sawn strut. Just below midspan is a four inch by six inch sawn purlin. Extending from each king post, diagonally to the outer corners, are principal hip rafters of sawn white pine, four inches by eleven inches in section. Blocking above this supports small hip rafters. This heavy framing has morticed joints secured with trenails. Secondary sheathing boards are wide.

The wooden cornice consists of a full entablature. The architrave consists of two fascias, a row of guttae, a narrow fascia and a crowning molding. It is constructed of heavy planking. The frieze is plain, no triglyphs. The bed moldings are dominated by a wide echinus. The soffit is curved to a drip. Above the corona is a rather wide cyma reversa, topped by a metal cymatium, apparently modern, serving as a gutter.

A low square cupola extends above the center of the roof. It has no openings now and is not accessible. This is apparently the base portion of a former complete cupola.

- 8. Porches, stoops, bulkheads: Centered on the south

front is a one-story porch, twelve feet (one bay) by twenty-six feet (three bays), with six fluted wooden columns of Greek Doric Order. The floor and its foundation are concrete, apparently a recent replacement. The roof is a flat deck with a paneled parapet (the roof framing and covering are recent replacements). A paneled anta against the wall on each side serves as a respond. The Doric Order lacks triglyphs.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. First story: A central entrance and stair hall is flanked by two main rooms on each side, those at the front being somewhat deeper than those at the rear. In modern times additional partitions were inserted to divide this story into smaller rooms.
- b. Second story: This plan is similar to the original first story.
- c. Basement: This space is divided into a wide central space, one space on the west and two on the east. It is not clear when these divisions were made.
- d. Attic: This space is unfinished except for a small hall at the top of the stair which allows access.

2. Stairways: An open-string stair of eighteen risers in the central hall extends straight back for two-thirds of its rise, the upper part curving in a quadrant. The railing continues around an open well about two feet wide. There are a rather heavy turned newel post, two thin turned balusters per tread, ornamental brackets and molded mahogany handrail. Treads have molded nosing. This stair continues, following the same design, to the attic level.

Access to the basement is now through an addition. No indication of a basement stair in the original building can be seen.

3. Flooring: The first and second floors have been covered with narrow two-tone oak boards, laid in a herringbone pattern with borders in principal rooms. The only visible original flooring is in the attic. Boards there

vary from five and one half inches to one foot four and one half inches in width.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls and ceilings are plastered and painted. In some rooms walls have been covered with canvas at an undetermined date. Plaster cornices are typical. Principal first-story parlors have a large molded panel in the ceiling. There are no wainscots. Most walls and ceilings are in good condition. The ceiling at the top of the stair is barrel vaulted in section.

All walls are finished with compound baseboards. The wooden bases in the first-story rooms are fairly high. A plinth of three fascias, the central one recessed, is capped by a cyma reversa, fillet, and narrow fascia. The base in the stair hall of both floors consists of a plinth, a narrow fascia and two inverted echinuses of rather flat section, the uppermost being narrow. The second story bedroom bases consist of a wide cyma reversa above a plinth course.

Plaster cornices: The cornice in the first story hall has a lower fascia, echinus with drip, curved soffit, corona, bird's beak and crowning fillet. The cornice in the first story rooms consists of a two-piece entablature over the orders of the wall. The frieze is divided into a lower fascia and a convex upper half. The bed molding consists of a bird's beak above three successively projecting fillets. There are a curved soffit, corona, fillet, bird's beak and crowning fillet. The cornice work for the second story rooms consists of a lower fascia, very small echinus, cyma reversa, curved soffit, corona, bead, bird's beak and crowning fillet.

5. Doorways and doors: Doors in the original openings appear to be original. They are one and seven-eighths inches thick and have six molded panels (front and back). The top and bottom tiers of panels are square. The stiles and rails are nearly as wide as the panels. The panel moldings are of mahogany; the stiles, rails and panels are painted to simulate mahogany graining. The doors are set in a variety of frames. In the central hall and the east parlors the opening is flanked by paneled wooden antae carrying a two-piece entablature (plain frieze, bead, cyma reversa, corona, fillet). The antae bases correspond to the room base. The west parlors have trim of the same scheme, but with the antae panels ornamented by an anthemion at the base

and one (inverted) at the top. The neck of the antae carries an anthemion band in low relief. The bead and bird's beak of the capital are enriched, as are the bead and cyma reversa of the bed molding. The second floor door trim is of the symmetrically molded type (sometimes called pilaster trim) with ornamented corner blocks and plinth in the south bedrooms. In the northeast bedroom, there is plain trim, paneled, with paneled corner blocks. In the northwest bedroom there are molded shouldered architraves.

Windows are set in similar frames. In the southwest parlor, each window is flanked by an enriched anta, similar to those described as trimming the door to this room, but taller. The room cornice constitutes the trim above the opening. Each window on the south wall has paneled interior shutters (two divisions), paneled soffit, jamb paneling below the stool line, and a single horizontal panel below the stool. The west windows have only a panel below the stool. The one original window of the northwest parlor is similar to those on the south wall of the southwest parlor. The original windows of the southeast and northeast parlors have similar treatment except that the antae are unornamented. The second story windows have trim similar to the doors of the corresponding rooms. Except for the hall window, now containing French doors, these windows have a single panel below the stool, the trim extending to the floor. These windows do not have interior shutters.

6. Special decorative features: Between the south and north parlors on the west side is a wide opening flanked by antae and a deep panel on each side. Originally this was probably fitted with sliding doors. Near the top of the stair, at the second story, is a niche with a pointed head. One fireplace remains in the southeast bedroom and another on the first floor below it. There is reason to believe that others once existed. The one on the second story is of white marble with veining marks. Simple pilasters carry a paneled frieze and mantel shelf (curved in plan) without bed moldings. This appears to be original, but the concrete hearth is a replacement. There is an ornamental cast iron fire front in the opening. The fireplace on the first floor is generally similar but of dark green marble.
7. Hardware: The first story doors have mortice locks,

silver-plated knobs and keyhole escutcheons with covers. Second story doors have porcelain knobs but otherwise similar hardware. Each is hung on two heavy butts. All of this appears original.

8. Lighting: No original fixtures remain.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house, sited on a corner lot, faces south. This lot now is part of the property of a Roman Catholic convent and school.
2. Historic landscape design: There is no indication of the original landscape treatment.
3. Outbuildings: None.
4. Walks: A stepped cement sidewalk approaches the three step cement porch stoop of the south front.

Prepared by Harley J. McKee
National Park Service
Department of Interior
August 3, 1966

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This recording project of twenty-six selections of historical and architecturally significant Rochester structures was undertaken in 1966, by the Society for the Preservation of Landmarks in Western New York, Inc., Mrs. Patrick Harrington, Executive Director, in cooperation with the Historic American Buildings Survey, James C. Massey, Chief. The project was under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Senior Historian. Architectural and historical descriptions were contributed by the Society for the Preservation of Landmarks in Western New York, Inc. General photographic documentation was undertaken by Hans Padelt, Senior Engineer, Graflex, on a contractual basis with Historic American Buildings Survey. The final documentation and editing was done by Susan R. Slade in 1978, for transmittal to the Library of Congress and the impending publication of the Historic American Buildings Survey New York State catalogue.